3. On the subject of equalisation of pay of undergraduate teachers in English and Vernacular schools, Government are unable to admit that there is complete equality. To begin with, teachers who are recruited for English schools are candidates of better attainments ; and in regard to duties and responsibilities too, they stand on a different footing from those recruited to the Vernacular schools. The undergraduate teachers in Vernacular schools, as a rule, only teach English and are not placed in responsible charge of a class, while undergraduate teachers in English schools teach not only English, but all the class subjects except perhaps Vernacular. Besides, they are placed in charge of classes. So, their responsibility and work are decidedly heavier. That being the case, there is no justification for equalisation of salary.

92. Further educational concessions to members of the depressed classes.

MR. AIYAN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) thanked the Government for the numerous concessions that had already been granted to members of the depressed classes such as Pulayas, Parayas, etc. Children belonging to these communities who were attending schools should be provided with noon meal at the cost of the Government. Such a concession would be required only for a period of about fifteen years. Children belonging to the depressed classes continued in their backward state of education as they had to compete with people better circumstanced who could afford to maintain their children in school with adequate sustenance.

Young men belonging to the Pulaya and similar other communities who did not possess examination qualifications should be recruited as peons. Orders should be issued for the appointment as teachers of the few qualified Vernacular School Leaving Certificate holders who were still without employment. At least one peon from these communities should be appointed in all departments, particularly in Taluk Cutcherries. Subordinate appointments, especially in the Forest Department, should be more freely conferred upon them.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Aiyan Kali, your request that something in the nature of a free meal—something very modest—should be allowed to Pulaya children who will otherwise be hungry throughout the day is a proposal which it may not be quite easy to arrange in practice. But I shall have the question taken up and examined.

2. As regards the other matter, that is, of employing Pulaya youths as peons both in Taluk Cutcherries and in the Forest Department, I may say that, a little time back, I gave orders that a Pulaya should be appointed as peon in one of the offices connected with the Huzur. In order to ensure that no special disabilities are imposed upon them because they are Pulayas, I shall see that a circular is sent to all the heads of departments to treat them equally with all other communities.

93. Needs of the people of Nanjinad.

MR. CHEMPAKAKKANNU PILLAI NAGARU PILLAI (*Member, Tovala taluk*) said that the Tamilians in certain taluks in Travancore were placed at a considerable disadvantage in that Tamil was not employed in preparing official documents, etc., even though the Government had permitted it in Tamil taluks. Orders should be issued for the maintenance of all official records in Tamil in such taluks. Only officers who had a knowledge of Tamil should be posted to Tamil taluks.

Under the existing rules, the ryots could not gain easy access to the neighbouring reserved forests for the purpose of collecting green-leaf manure, timber for making agricultural implements, etc., as the areas set apart for the purpose were either far away from agricultural holdings or did not contain the necessary materials. If it could be ordered that the ryots might have access to any portion of the reserves for the above-mentioned purposes provided they did not cut down Royal trees, etc., it would be of immense benefit to the ryots and no loss to the State.

The deterioration of the soil in Nanjinad for want of sufficient manure had begun to tell upon the productivity of the land. This was partly due to the restriction placed on the free ingress into Travancore territory of sheep and cattle from British India. It was therefore necessary to allow foreign sheep and cattle to be taken into Travancore territory free of any license fee at least for four months from Masi every year.

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The restriction now placed on the removal of granite from quarries might be removed and the people should be allowed to remove stones without any fee, as of old. Such a course would tend to the conversion of rocky places into good arable lands yielding a permanent income to the State by way of land tax, as for instance, Survey Nos. 2212, 3549, 2223, 3492 in Chempakaramanputur *pakuthi* in the Tovala taluk and some places in Alur *pakuthi* in the old Eraniel taluk.

For avoiding the confusion in the *thandaper* and other accounts in village offices the following measures should be adopted:—

(i) Opening of additional columns in the *thandaper* to show the extent and nature of land, the price of paddy, the name of the person who had possession of the land, etc.

(ii) Changes in the *thandaper* should be effected before *Jamabandi*. The Tahsildar should examine the records from time to time and the *Jamabandi* Officer should attest them.

(iii) After the *Jamabandi* was over, a list showing the demands for the following year should be prepared and put up for public inspection in the Taluk and the *Pakuthi* Cutcherries. Extracts from the list showing the non-resident *thandaper*-holders should also be prepared and sent to the *pakuthies* in which they resided, for realising the dues.

The adoption of these suggestions would facilitate the collection of tax and remove the necessity for the issue of a large number of demand notices. Though the work of village officers might thereby slightly increase, they would feel their responsibility. They should at the same time be paid better for their work and even if it be not feasible to have hereditary village officials as in British India, frequent transfers should be avoided and the village officials should be retained at each station at least for six years.

Lastly, agriculture, which was the main occupation of the people of Nanjinad, had, through altered circumstances, begun to lag behind. It should be given fresh life, and for that, instruction on agricultural subjects on scientific lines should be imparted in Tamil schools. Model demonstration farms should be opened and demonstrators appointed to advise the agriculturists on agricultural matters.

The Member also requested that the Nanjinad Vellala Bill might be passed into law as early as practicable.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Nagaru Pillai, what you say about the officers posted in the Nanjinad, *viz.*, that they should be men who know Tamil, is a suggestion that will be borne in mind by the Government and given effect to wherever and whenever feasible.

2. Your next point that all official documents in Nanjinad should be in Tamil is, I regret, not a proposal that Government can accept. The language of the country is Malayalam and we cannot change it for the benefit of the people in one particular corner of the State. May I suggest that it is likely that most of the people in Nanjinad after all these centuries should have picked up some Malayalam too? If not, they should possibly try to do so now.

3. Your next points are that the ryots should have free access to the reserves for the collection of green-leaf manure and that the restriction placed on the removal of stones from quarries should be removed. I gather that, in respect of all these, what you wish to get is uncontrolled rights. That, I regret to say, is a matter which the Government cannot view with satisfaction. People could not be given complete license, free ingress over the Government property. Property belonging to the State as a whole should be controlled by the Government so as to prevent deterioration and exploitation by individuals.

4. Then, you take up the question of levy of fees on sheep and goats for the purpose of grazing. I believe you are aware that the rates existing here are very, very low, in fact much lower than those in British India. In the case of forest reserves and plantations, it is one anna and four annas for one season of one year, for local and foreign sheep respectively. In the case of other lands at the disposal of the Government, it is six pies and three annas. These rates are as low as possible and it cannot be said that they inflict very great hardship.

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5. You next refer to *pakuthi* officers and want them to be permanently stationed in each village as in the case of Village Munsiffs in British India. As you must know, the system of village life known in British India does not exist in Travancore except in one or two localities. The great bulk of the country does not know what village life is. Consequently, the lesser should yield to the requirements of the greater. Hence the *pakuthi* administration in Nanjinad should be as elsewhere.

MEMBER: My last point (sixth point) has not been answered.

DEWAN: All the points that have not been specifically answered will be noted for consideration.

94. Needs of the Nagercoil Municipality.

MR. S. MANIKKAM ADAVIYAR (*Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) said that Nagercoil town was rapidly growing in importance, but that the comparatively young Municipality was not able to cope with the increasing demands of the growing town without the aid of the Government. The stopping of the Government grant to that Municipality at this juncture was very discouraging. The Municipality was doing very good work in the matter of public works, etc., and unless the Government were prepared to mete out an equitable treatment, the Municipality would not be in a position to take up such works.

The first and foremost need of the town was good drinking water. The people had been praying for this for the last thirty-five years and that had also been a subject represented at the 7th, 9th, 11th, 16th and 17th sessions of the Assembly, and in spite of the recommendations of Chief Engineer Mr. Jacob and Executive Engineer Mr. Horsely, the Government had been apathetic in the matter and this had sorely distressed the minds of the people. An attempt in this direction was made in the time of Dewan Mr. Raghaviah, but it proved futile. A sum of Rs. 1,723 had to be spent by the Municipality towards the cost of investigation and there the matter ended. For want of good drinking water, the people were falling a prey to such diseases as typhoid fever and cholera. The Government should at once do what is necessary in the matter or entrust the Municipality with the necessary funds for carrying out any scheme of water supply.

As a result of the policy followed by the Government some time back of auctioning away tank-beds and other lands suitable for grazing cattle, the cattle in Nagercoil town could not thrive. It was therefore necessary that, in future, tank-beds, tanks which were silted up, etc., should not be sold away. The Municipal Council went into the question in 1924 and as a result of the investigation made by a sub-committee, the Government were approached with certain suggestions by means of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Council held on the 9th April 1924. But no reply had been received from the Government. As suggested in that communication, if only the Government would transfer to the Municipality the lands mentioned therein, the Municipal Council would convert them into excellent pastures. The Member also suggested the transfer of the Pillayarkulam, Chayakkarankulam, Kantachankulam, Kommanta Ammankovilkulam, Nandavanam *poramboke*, etc., to the Municipality for the purpose of opening cattle yards for stall feeding.

In regard to the milk supply for Nagercoil, the Member suggested that the Esantimangalam dairy farm might be expanded so as to meet the demands of the town and that a similar farm might be opened somewhere near Nagercoil.

Nagercoil town was getting very congested and a public park was of the utmost importance. The open ground to the east of the Ramavarmapuram Palace was a suitable site for a park. This was the property of the Yadavar Village Trust. The Government should move in the matter and acquire the site for the use of the public.

A Public Library as in Trivandrum might be opened in Nagercoil also.

Nagercoil was very much in need of a maternity hospital. At least, a lady doctor should be appointed to the Nagercoil District Hospital and a labour and a lying-

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